

U.S. Appln. No 09/899,767
Response dated December 9, 2003
Reply to Office Communication of November 12, 2003
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REMARKS

Claims 1 and 2 of the elected Group I have been determined to be generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species thereby requiring an election of species. The Examiner has clarified a required an election of a representative species in each of the following generic categories: (a) a catalyst array support, (b) a detector, (c) solids, (d) a reagent fluid, (e) an ion concentration indicator, and (f) a second reagent fluid. As to the catalyst array support, applicants elect the species of carbon paper, as to a detector, applicants elect the human eye, as to solids, applicants elect catalysts, as to a reagent fluid, applicants elect reformate gas, as to an ion concentration indicator, applicants elect Ni-3-pyridin-2-yl-<4,5,6>-triazo-<1,5-a>-pyridine. The category of second reagent is found in Claim 23 which has been cancelled and therefore no election of species should be required. However, in the event that an election as to the second reagent is viewed as necessary for complete response to the official communication, as to the elected species of a second reagent fluid applicants elect hydrogen.

As to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, applicants responded on October 1, 2003, after a telephone call from the Examiner. Copies of the response are attached hereto. The response was transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 1, 2003 as shown in the signed certificate of facsimile on the first pages of the responses and also shown on the reports of successful transmission generated by the facsimile equipment. The response date of October 1, 2003 was within the one-month response time period indicated on the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment.

Accordingly, in view of the above remarks and the attached amendments, this application is now believed to be in a condition for an allowance of all remaining claims and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Maryann Maas
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 38,954
(847) 391-2137 (phone)
(847) 391-2387 (fax)

James W. Hellwege, 28,808
Washington Counsel
(703) 415-1500